

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed November 14, 2005. Claims 31-90 are pending in the Application and stand rejected. For the purposes of expediting prosecution, Applicant amends Claims 31, 38, 44, 51, 56, and 61. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Claim Rejections — 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejects Claims 31-90 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner alleges that:

It is not clear how the mobile unit has not determined it has entered a geographic area associated with a base transceiver station and there is no mention of the amended limitation involving the request to change foreign agents. Thus, the disclosure does not enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention as claimed without undue experimentation.

Office Action, p. 3.

Applicant respectfully disputes this assertion. Applicant respectfully submits that the Application as originally filed supports the previously-filed claims. Nonetheless, for the purpose of advancing prosecution, Applicant amends Claims 31, 38, 44, 51, 56, and 61 to clearly define the Applicant's inventions. Applicant submits that the present amendments are intended to further clarify the claimed invention and do not modify the scope of any of the amended claims.

Claim Rejections — 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejects Claims 31-55 and 61-90 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,793,762 issued to Penners et al. ("*Penners*"). As amended, Claim 31 recites:

A method for supporting data communications comprising:

detecting, without receiving from a mobile unit a registration request, that the mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with a base transceiver station;

determining, in response to detecting that the mobile unit has entered the geographic area, a home agent for the mobile unit based on a device identifier of the mobile unit;

requesting subscription information from the home agent, wherein the subscription information comprises an internet protocol (IP) address for the mobile unit; and

initiating, by the base transceiver station, registration of a foreign agent with the home agent, wherein the foreign agent is associated with a foreign network, and wherein the registration permits the foreign agent to receive redirect packets from the home agent, the redirect packets containing information for communication to the mobile unit.

Penners fails to disclose every element of amended Claim 31. For example, *Penners* fails to recite “detecting, without receiving from a mobile unit a registration request, that the mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with a base transceiver station” as recited by amended Claim 31. *Penners* discloses “a method and system for providing microcellular Personal Communications Services (PCS) with handover functionality to subscribers with mobile terminals.” Column 2, ll. 53-54. *Penners*, however, specifically indicates that the mobile unit must request registration. In particular, in describing the registration process described by FIG. 3, *Penners* notes:

A registration area in this architecture is restricted to one RPC. The mobile terminal (handset) after recognizing a new preferred RPC signal, sends a registration request (ERQ52) to the new RPC.

Col. 8, ll. 23-25.

Thus, the system described by *Penners* explicitly relies on the mobile unit to transmit a registration request when it enters a new registration area. Consequently, *Penners* does not disclose “detecting, without receiving from a mobile unit a registration request, that the mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with a base transceiver station” as recited by amended Claim 31.

As a result, *Penners* does not recite, either explicitly or inherently, every element of amended Claim 31. Claim 31 is thus allowable for at least this reason. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 31 and its dependents.

Although of differing scope from Claim 31, Claims 38, 44, and 51 include elements that, for reasons substantially similar to those discussed with respect to Claim 31, are not recited by Claims 38, 44, and 51. Claims 38, 44, and 51 are thus allowable for at least these reasons. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 38, 44, and 51, and their respective dependents.

As amended, Claim 61 recites:

A method for supporting data communications comprising:
detecting, at a base transceiver station, that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station, wherein the mobile unit is not capable of determining that the mobile unit has moved between geographic areas associated with different base transceiver stations;
determining, in response to detecting that the mobile unit has entered the geographic area, a home agent for the mobile unit based on a device identifier of the mobile unit;
requesting subscription information from the home agent, wherein the subscription information comprises an internet protocol (IP) address for the mobile unit; and
initiating, by the base transceiver station, registration of a foreign agent with the home agent, wherein the foreign agent is associated with a foreign network, and wherein the registration permits the foreign agent to receive redirect packets from the home agent, the redirect packets containing information for communication to the mobile unit.

Penners fails to recite, expressly or inherently, every element of amended Claim 61 for at least several reasons. First, *Penners* fails to recite “detecting, at a base transceiver station, that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station[.]” Second, *Penners* fails to disclose “detecting...that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station, wherein the mobile unit is not capable of determining that the mobile unit has moved between geographic areas associated with different base transceiver stations.” As a result, as described in greater detail below, *Penners* fails to recite every element of amended Claim 61.

First, *Penners* fails to recite “detecting, at a base transceiver station, that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station[.]” As noted above, *Penners* discloses “a method and system for providing microcellular Personal Communications Services (PCS) with handover functionality to subscribers with mobile terminals.” Column 2, ll. 53-54. In particular, in describing the registration process described by FIG. 3, *Penners* notes:

A registration area in this architecture is restricted to one RPC. The mobile terminal (handset) after recognizing a new preferred RPC signal, sends a registration request (ERQ52) to the new RPC.

Col. 8, ll. 23-25.

Thus, the mobile terminal of *Penners* detects that the mobile terminal has entered the geographic area associated with the new RPC. The new RPC merely detects the registration request (REQ52) transmitted by the mobile terminal. The new RPC does not, however,

disclose “detecting...that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station.” Thus, *Penners* fails to disclose “detecting, at a base transceiver station, that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station” as recited by amended Claim 61.

Second, *Penners* fails to disclose “detecting...that a mobile has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station, wherein the mobile unit is not capable of determining that the mobile unit has moved between geographic areas associated with different base transceiver stations.” As noted above, to the extent that any device in *Penners* determines that the mobile terminal has “entered a geographic area associated with a new base transceiver station, it is clearly the mobile terminal.” As *Penners* indicates, “[t]he mobile terminal (handset) after recognizing a new preferred RPC signal sends a registration request (REQ52) to the new RPC.” Col. 8, ll. 24-25. Consequently, the mobile terminal is clearly “capable of determining that the mobile [terminal] has moved between geographic areas associated with different [RPCs.]” Thus, *Penners* does not disclose “detecting...that a mobile unit has entered a geographic area associated with the base transceiver station, wherein the mobile unit is not capable of determining that the mobile unit has moved between geographic areas associated with different base transceiver stations” as recited by amended Claim 61.

As a result, *Penners* fails to recite, either expressly or inherently, every element of amended Claim 61. Claim 61 is thus allowable for at least these reasons. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 61 and its dependents.

Additionally, although of differing scope from Claim 61, Claims 68, 74, and 81 include elements that, for reasons substantially similar to those discussed with respect to Claim 61, are not recited by *Penners*. Claims 68, 74, and 81 are thus allowable for at least these reasons. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 68, 74, and 81, and their respective dependents.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejects Claims 56-60 and 86-90 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Penners*. Although of differing scope from Claim 31, Claim 56 includes elements that, for reasons substantially similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim

31, are not recited by *Penners*. Claim 56 is thus allowable for at least these reasons. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 56, and its respective dependents.

Although of differing scope from Claim 61, Claim 86 includes elements that, for reasons substantially similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 61, are not recited by *Penners*. Claim 86 is thus allowable for at least these reasons. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claim 86, and its respective dependents.

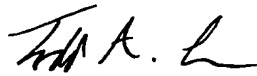
Conclusion

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place the Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of the Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicant stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

No fees are believed to be currently due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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